

## BENNERY LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2016 – 2:00 p.m. 2 Park Ave., Lower Sackville Halifax Water Office Boardroom

## Attendance:

| Trevor Creasor, Subdivision Approvals  |  |
|--|--|
| Dawn MacNeill, Watershed Planner   | Nova Scotia Environment                                |
| Tim O'Brien, Crown Land Forester  Heather Olivella, Protected Areas Coordinator                                      | Department of Natural ResourcesNova Scotia Environment |
| Regrets:   |  |
| Reid Campbell, Director of Water Services  Jan Jachimowicz  Bernie Matlock, P. Eng.  Paul Parusel, Brookhill Estates | Landowner RepresentativeNova Scotia Environment        |

#### 1. Attendance / Introductions:

Meeting called to order by Barry Geddes, Chair.

- Regrets were acknowledged (listed above).
- Introductions
  - Trevor Creasor replaced Kevin Warner for HRM Planning and Development.
- No quorum noted.
- Anna distributed copies of:
  - a. Meeting Agenda;
  - b. DRAFT Sept. 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes; and
- No changes or additions were requested to the Agenda.

#### 2. Old Business:

Review September17, 2015 Minutes and Action Items (see Table 1)

Minutes not approved due to lack of quorum.

## **Action**

| tem # /<br>Page in<br>//inutes | Action Items  | Date Issued  | Delegate   | Status                                |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1.                             | Special Constable Status and Training for Halifax Water staff with respect to the <i>Environment Act</i> SOT changes. Update1: Waiting for Halifax Water staff training to occur and constable positions to be assigned.  Update 2: Training scheduled for May2, 2016                                       | March 6, 2014;<br>Update1:<br>March 5, 2015;<br>Update:<br>March 3, 2016 | Barry / Reid   | Pending<br>official<br>appointment    |
| 2.                             | Create a Bennery-specific brochure; generic on one side and Bennery-specific on the other. Update: Intern being sought to help develop brochure through winter of 2016. Update: Brochure in its final review of being approved. Update: Provide comments by Tuesday March 8th, 2016                         | March 6, 2014<br>Update:<br>Sept.17, 2015;<br>Update:<br>March 3, 2016   | Barry /<br>Anna/<br><b>Update:</b><br><b>Committee</b> | Complete                              |
| 3.                             | Distribute brochure to community.  Update: Pending development of brochure (see previous action item).  | March 6, 2014;<br>Update Sept.<br>17, 2015,                              | Paul   | Pending<br>development<br>of brochure |
| 4.                             | Request that DNR notify Water Works Operator of any watercourse alterations on Crown Lands inside the Bennery Lake watershed.  Update: Remove from agenda   | March 6, 2014;<br>Update: Sept.<br>17, 2015                              | Anna/ Barry  | Complete                              |
| 5.                             | Seek efficiencies through NSE to improve watershed protection as it relates to NSE's approval process (Watercourse Alteration and Onsite Septic systems).  Update: Confirm when the On-Site Septic meeting for Qualified Persons is to be held and communicate this to Halifax Water to confirm attendance. | March 6, 2014;<br>Update: Sept.<br>17, 2015<br>Update:<br>March 3, 2015  | Bernie /<br>Dawn                                       | Action<br>Required                    |
| 6.                             | Revisit ToR membership on BLWMC; Update: remove HWAB, discuss removing DNR and adding NSE Protected Areas (PAs) as landowner members at March 2016 meeting, pending Dec. 31, 2015 legislation approval of PAs.  | March 6, 2014;<br><b>Updated:</b><br><b>Sept. 17, 2015</b>               | All  | Action required                       |
| 7.                             | Kevin will send around a map of the HIAA development.   | September 17,<br>2015  | Kevin  | Complete                              |
| 8.                             | Contact the Wastewater Society to possibly attend the annual AGM to present on Source Water Protection and associated regulations.  | September 17,<br>2015  | Anna /<br>Barry  | Complete                              |
| 9.                             | Post signage around the Bennery Lake Nature<br>Reserve once approved  | September 17,<br>2015  | NSE/Barry  | Action required                       |
| 10.                            | Send Steve Doucette a map of the landownership and Protected Areas.   | September 17,<br>2015  | Anna   | Complete                              |
| 11.                            | Add brochure to Halifax Water website.  | March 3, 2016  | Anna   | Complete                              |
| 12.                            | Find out at what stage is the Municipal Government Act review is in.  | March 3, 2016  | Barry  | Action required                       |

## Business Arising from the Minutes/Action Items:

**Action Item #:** Special Constable Status.

- Required by NSE; and
- Enables Halifax Water to fulfill its requirements to enforce the Protected Water Area Regulations.

Update: Training scheduled for May2, 2016 in Truro. Barry Geddes to attend for Halifax Water.

**Barry** 

Action

**Action Item #2:** *Source Water Protection Brochure* 

- One brochure for all watersheds being produced;
- Work-term student from Dalhousie Community Design developing the brochure; and
- Brochure in final stages of completion.

Action Item #3: Source Water Protection brochure Distribution

**Paul** 

• Action is required after the brochure is completed.

**Action Item #4**: Request DNR to notify Halifax Water for Water Crossing Alterations when working inside the Bennery Lake watershed community.

- Not a concern now since majority of Crown Land is protected by NSE through its status as the Bennery Lake Nature Reserve.
- No disturbance activities (including no hunting or fishing) are permitted in a Nature Reserve

Update: Complete, remove from agenda and action item table.

**Action Item #5**: Seek efficiencies through NSE to improve watershed protection as it relates to NSE's approval process.

- With respect to on-site septic systems.
- Halifax Water attended four Nova Scotia Wastewater Society annual regional meetings where installers and NSE typically exchange information.
- This meeting particularly focused on the changes to the on-site sewage disposal system <u>Regulations and Technical Guidelines</u> to take effect May 1, 2016.
- On behalf of Halifax Water, Anna conducted a presentation to create more awareness of the water supply areas, the different water supply regulations and protection mechanisms that on-site septic installers and inspectors should be aware of with respect to water supply protection.

- O Anna provided guidance/ education as to who to contact when working inside a Protected Watershed Area. In the case of Bennery Lake it is Halifax Water.
- **Action**
- Many installers were unaware of Protected Water Areas and the applicable Regulations.
- The on-site system engineering group (Qualified Persons) who design the systems were to meet in May of 2016.
- Halifax Water requested that Halifax Water be invited to the meeting to share watershed information with them.

Update Action Item: Dawn MacNeill to confirm when the On-Site Septic meeting for the *engineering group* is to take place and get back to Halifax Water to confirm attendance.

Dawn

**Action Item #6**: ToR update

• Discussed in section 4.

**Action Item #7**: Kevin Warner to send a map of the proposed HIAA Noise exposure development expansion zone to the advisory board members.

- Kevin sent the map via email to BLWAC members February, 29, 2016.
- HRM changed areas within the Noise Exposure Zone to Conservation Zone. This would stop any further residential development within this zone.
- As a landowner, DNR received notification from HRM of the new expansion.
- Clarification of the new zone stipulates that it does not have jurisdiction over provincial lands, but notification of the zoning change is required.
- DNR still has rights to harvest and build access roads for forestry related operations.

**Update:** Complete. Therefore, remove from action item table.

**<u>Discussion:</u>** Regarding future planned forestry operations adjacent to but not inside the Bennery Lake PWA.

**Action Item #8:** Contact the Wastewater Society to possibly attend the annual AGM to present on Source Water Protection and associated regulations.

• Anna presented at four meetings per Action Item #5.

**Update:** Complete, remove from action item table.

**Action Item #9**: Post signs within the Bennery Lake Nature Reserve boundary.

Heather

• Heather informed the Committee that the signs will be posted in the next couple of weeks.

**Action** 

# Action Item #10: Send Landownership maps to Steve Doucette Complete: Remove from action item table.

#### Protected Area Update:

• see Action Item#9

#### On-site Septic Tanks Update:

• see Action Item #5

#### Terms of Reference (ToR)

- DNR removed from membership because NSE Protected Areas has assumed responsibility of the Crown Lands within the new Bennery Lake Nature Reserve.
  - DNR still owns a small parcel (<5%) on the west side of Bennery Lake; however, they have decided to step down from membership.
- Replace the word "forest" in section 1 with "resource".
- Replace the word "name" to "send" in section 13.
- Add a second NSE member to the Committee as a non-voting member
- Reduce the quorum from 5 to 3 due to the reduced membership.
- One of two voting membership must be either the General Public District 2 or Bennery Lake Watershed Private Landowner.

#### Complete, remove from action item table.

<u>Discussion</u>: Regarding HRM permits and who forwards them to Halifax Water and the Committee.

• Trevor informed the board that he will be forwarding the permits in Kevin's place.

**Standing agenda item**. Trevor to review any permits within the Bennery Lake watershed to report to the Committee at future meetings.

Trevor

Trevor Creasor left the meeting due to a prior engagement.

#### Community Awareness about Watershed Area

- Source Water Protection Brochure
  - Dalhousie Community Planning student working on the Brochure.
  - Final draft

O Add to website

Update Action Item #2: Provide comments by Tuesday March 8th, 2016.

New Action Item #11: Add brochure to Halifax Water website.

3. New Business Arising:

2015 Source Water Protection Report:

O Communications and processes between Halifax Water, HRM and the province have improved.

Incident Command System has helped the process.

All speaking one language and attending the same training

Review of accomplishments and outstanding balances for 2015.
 Review of the Municipal Government Act review.

course which has helped with better networking.

• Where it is in the review process?

New Action Item #12: Find out what stage the *Municipal Government Act* review is in.

Barry

• Water quality review.

**<u>Discussion</u>**: Regarding the geological differences that impact water quality within the Bennery Lake watershed.

### Membership Election:

• No quorum – deferred to next meeting.

#### Committee Election Year:

• No quorum cannot complete – deferred to next meeting.

#### 4. Municipal Planning Update

Nothing to report

#### 5. Landowner Q&A:

- Halifax Water purchased 393 acres of private land on April 3, 2016.
  - Halifax Water ownership increased from 10% to 35% due to this acquisition.
- 6. Next Meeting Date: Sept. 29, 2016 2:00 pm.

#### 7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned: 4:10 pm

Barry Geddes: Chair | Barry Geddes: Vice Chair | Anna McCarron: Secretary